Bomb Blast in Delhi

5019. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the bomb blast in Paharganj Guest House recently, the Government have made any survey to identify the illegal guest houses running in the city.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made in the matter; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) There were 369 unauthorised Guest houses/ hotels operating in the National Capital Territory in Delhi as on 24.7.1996. Prosecution proceedings have already been launched in 326 of these cases.

[Translation]

Ramesh Chandra Committee

5020. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA":

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Ramesh Chandra was set up to investigate the incident of attack on the former Chief Minister of U.P. at Lucknow Guest House during the last year;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(c) if so, the findings of the report;

(d) whether any action has been taken by the Government on the basis of this report;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The major recommendations made to the State Government in the report of the Committee under reference were (i) to seek assistance of the CBI for unravelling the conspiracy behind the Guest house incident of the 2nd June, 1995, (ii) to strengthen the intelligence machinery and (iii) to improve the infrastructure and schemes relating to training and motivation of police officials/officers in order to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

(d) to (f) The recommendation in regard to seeking of assistance from CBI was not accepted by the State Government, as the State CID was already investigating the criminal cases filed in connection with the Guest House incident. Action has been initiated by the State Government on other recommendations.

Chini Sahitya

5021. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Kirvi ke Nikat Chini Sahitya se lada Gubaara Gira", appearing in the 'Dainik Jagran' dated July 8, 1996;

(b) whether the transmitters and electronic items have also been recovered from the said balloon; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The balloon contained publicity material of Taiwanese origin meant for mainland China, besides four dry batteries, a plastic bottle and a compass type instrument.

[English]

Illegal Weapons

5022. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the intelligence agencies are examining the report suggesting that Pakistan is openly encouraging large scale illegal manufacturing of light weapons in the tribal areas of the North West Frontier;

(b) whether the industries manufacturing illegal weapons have mushroomed at various places and in these areas specific orders have been placed by the ISI with the tribal leaders with the intention of pushing weapon consignments to India;

(c) whether in September 1995, 36 army officers had brought nearly Rs. 4 million worth of Pakistani arms at the Dara Adamkhel;

(d) if so, whether these arms are brought or being brought by the money generated from the smuggling of narcotics to the Europe and Middle East; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to check such illegal practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (e) Government is aware of the designs of ISI of Pakistan to carry out espionage, subversion and sabotage in India in a clandestine manner and is taking all necessary steps to combat and frustrate such objectives by gearing up the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and coordinated action by the concerned Central and State agencies, strengthening the deployment of para-military forces at strategic locations, intensified coastal as well as inland patrolling, construction of border fencing and flood-lighting in vulnerable stretches of the Indo-Pak border.

It would not be in public interest to give further details in this regard.

Jute Material for Packing

5023. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have extended the validity of The Jute Materials, in Packing Commodities Act 1987 for the fertilizers for another three months from July 1, 1996;

(b) if so, the main reason for extending the package order; and

(c) the period of extension provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) The Standing Advisory Committee set up under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 has commenced review of the type of commodities and the percentage thereof to be packed in jute bags. Meanwhile, since the reservation order for packing 50% of urea in jute bags was expiring on 30.6.96, the Ministry of Textiles has issued an interim status quo order effective from 1.7.96 to 30.9.96.

[Translation]

Fetilizers Unit in Delhi

5024. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fertilizer units functioning in Delhi;

(b) whether these units are functioning as per their capacity;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to further increase the production capacity of these Units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) There is no fertilizer unit functioning in Delhi.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Cogentrix Power Project

5025. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Expert Committee of the Ministry of thermal power projects and process/procedures by which the said expert committee went into the details of the environmental implications of the Cogentrix project;

(b) the recommendations/comments of the said Committee about the aforesaid project; and

(c) the stringent environmental safeguards to be implemented by the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) The Expert Committee for Thermal Power Projects constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 as amended on 4th May, 1994 examined the proposal as per the procedure laid down based on the information contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and additional information furnished subsequently. The Committee recommended the project subject to clarifications on availability of space for flue gas desulphurisation plant, use of sea water in cooling towers, possibility of dry fly ash collection, etc.

(c) The stringent environmental safeguards to be implemented in the project include: installation of flue gas desulphurisation plant, no intake from and discharge into Mulki river, use of sea water for the plant, rehabilitation of oustees and fly ash utilisation.

Reinstatement of Railway Staff

5026. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Running Staff of the Eastern Railway dismissed from services in the year 1981 are still to be reinstated;

(b) whether a number of such staff was reinstated in the year 1993 after the Supreme Court judgement;

(c) whether a number of such staff has not yet been reinstated;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and